

## LAFAYETTE WOODSON'S TRIAL

For the Murder of Thomas Fleming  
Opened Yesterday.

## TWELVE JURORS SOON SECURED

And they are taken to View the Scene of the Alleged Crime—The Theory of the Defense Explained. A Witness tells the Story of the Fateful Occurrence.

The case of the State of West Virginia vs. Lafayette Woodson, charged with the murder of Thomas Fleming, was set for 9:30 yesterday morning in the Circuit Court, before Judge Paul. Early on the twenty-second day of June, 1901, Thomas Fleming was put out of Dolan's saloon, on Market street. Arrested by Officer West, he was taken to the lockup in the patrol wagon and a charge of drunkenness placed against him. When called to appear in the police court to answer the charge he was found dead in his cell. Lafayette Woodson was arrested within the hour and sent to jail without bond, and has remained there since. At its last session the grand jury found a true bill against him for murder.

The court convened promptly at the set time yesterday morning, but when about to proceed with the preliminaries of the trial, it was found that Harry Chapline, the chief witness for the prosecution, had not yet put in an appearance. The court waited some time for Mr. Chapline to show up, and finally adjourned until 2 p. m. Chapline did not appear until 3 o'clock, and after being reprimanded by the judge he was sentenced to serve five days in jail.

## A JURY SECURED.

In making up the panel of jurymen not much time was lost. Francis Flood and Charles Harbrook were excused, on account of conscientious scruples in regard to capital punishment, and H. C. Richards, John R. Clark and J. C. Jamieson, for having formed an opinion, to remove which would require evidence. The panel of twenty was soon obtained, and after both sides had exercised their right of challenge, the following jurymen were put into the box: D. F. Higgins, John L. Downs, Benjamin Dean, John T. King, George W. Merchant, Joseph Wedner, Max Beuter, A. E. Carter, Otto Schenk, M. L. Etzler, W. D. Shields and G. Will Tieman.

Prosecuting Attorney Howard was assisted by Col. W. W. Arnett, Capt. R. B. Duvener appearing for the defense.

Mr. Woodson, the defendant, appeared in court, accompanied by his wife and little girl. They paid close attention to the speeches of counsel and the testimony of the few witnesses examined, Capt. Duvener occasionally bending over and consulting with his client.

Mr. Howard led off for the prosecution. He gave a history of the occurrence and the finding of the coroner's jury. He went on to the indictment for murder in the first degree, and while claiming that the State would be able to prove the count in the indictment, he showed that a verdict of murder in the first or second degree, or of manslaughter might be found by the jury. His remarks were short, but pointed.

## THE LINE OF DEFENSE.

Captain Duvener opened for the defense, and gave a detailed resume of the events leading up to the killing of Thomas Fleming. He claimed that the condition of Fleming was such that the state of his brain when opened could have resulted from natural causes, as his system was saturated with alcohol. He described Fleming sitting in a chair in the saloon, and then went on to state that Fleming had been awakened by Woodson; he fell asleep again, and when Woodson waked him a second time he rose and struck at Woodson with a cane. Woodson slapped him a couple of times in the face and then pulled him out the door. Policeman West put Fleming under arrest, nothing showing beyond a bruise on the face that he had been injured. The captain described the ride in the patrol wagon to the city building, and how Fleming went into the lockup-keeper's room and washed his face.

Captain Duvener claimed that the immense quantity of blood taken from Fleming's brain proved that the blood vessel had burst many hours before he was ejected from the saloon by Woodson, and that by no possibility could such an enormous quantity of blood have exuded in the few short hours that elapsed between the time the trouble occurred and the hour at which he died.

At the close of Captain Duvener's speech Colonel Arnett took the floor for the State. Colonel Arnett said that the State would prove that the blow administered by Woodson in an unlawful way had caused the death of Fleming, and that the man's condition was not connected, remotely or otherwise, with the cause of his death. That the heart and the liver were somewhat fatty and roughened, but capable of performing all their functions.

## TESTIMONY BEGUN.

Officer Jack West was called to the stand. The officer said he saw Fleming when he was dragged out of Dolan's saloon by Woodson, and that he appeared to be in a stupor. He raised Fleming to his feet, put him in the patrol wagon and took him to the station house. The witness detailed a short conversation he had with Woodson, in which the latter said that Fleming had struck him with a cane; he did not remember whether Woodson had admitted striking Fleming or not.

Officer Carney and Capt. Delbrugge testified as to the man's appearance and the bloated condition of his face. Their testimony was not of much importance. Harry Chapline, a printer, said that he was in Dolan's saloon the morning of the occurrence. On examination by Mr. Howard, he said:

"I had been working all night, and between three and four o'clock I went into Dolan's saloon. Fleming was asleep and Woodson went over and stirred him up, telling him that sleeping in the saloon was against the rules. After he had waked me, I heard him say, 'Why, that man's asleep again.' He walked over to where Fleming was and shook him by the shoulder, and told him to leave. He waked him up again, and Fleming arose to his feet and struck at Woodson with a light cane he carried. Woodson thereupon struck Fleming on the head somewhere, and knocked him down. He struck him with his fist.

## STUCK REPEATEDLY.

"He hit him two or three times while he was lying on his side, whether with his fist or open hand I don't know. He fell on his side and Woodson hit him two or three times while he was down. Fleming didn't do anything but

lay quiet. Woodson then took him by

the arms and dragged him out." On cross-examination Captain Duvener finally got the witness to admit that the blows were delivered in quick succession, while Fleming was falling to the floor, and that the whole business, from the time Fleming struck at Woodson with the cane until Woodson began to pull Fleming out, did not occupy over fifteen seconds. A good deal of time was lost by the incidental sparring of counsel, Mr. Howard being accused of repeating vain questions and Captain Duvener being charged with acting. The captain gained his point, nevertheless, and scored a hit by his histrionic abilities.

At 5:30 p. m. court adjourned, with Witness Chapline still on the stand. The jury visited Dolan's saloon, accompanied by the defendant. Here Woodson showed the place where the fracas occurred, explaining the positions in which he and Fleming stood on the morning of the occurrence.

Court will meet at the regular time this morning, when Chapline will probably again go on the stand.

## LOCAL NEWS.

Matters of Minor Moment in and About the City.

## EMANCIPATION DAY.

THE GRAND this evening—"The Irish Corporal."

The Robinson show pitches its tents at Bellair to-day.

JOHN MCGILL, of the Top mill, was seriously burned in the eye by a hot cinder, but not permanently injured.

Every flag in town ought to be put out to-day. All citizens along the line of march should decorate their houses.

THE City Council will meet in regular session this evening. Nothing of especial importance demands the attention of the body.

GEORGE SPENDEN, a P. W. & Ky. brakeman, had his right foot crushed while coupling cars at Wheeling Junction yesterday.

THE Council committee on cemeteries will meet at 7 o'clock this evening, a half hour before the time set for the meeting of Council.

A GREAT many boys "beat" their way to the island yesterday by crossing the new bridge and climbing down a high ladder at the west end.

A FIGHT by the Grand Opera House last night resulted in one man being badly beaten up. The parties concerned will be arrested.

THE painters started to work yesterday fixing up the Paxton fountain. The statuary was first scraped and all the "worm holes" puttied up.

A NUMBER of young society people, married and single, will give a hop at Wheeling Park this evening. The Opera House orchestra has been engaged.

GEORGE E. WILKINSON, manager of the Riverside forge, was badly injured yesterday by being thrown out of his buggy at the corner of Forty-eighth and Jacob streets.

THE ladies of the Zane Street M. E. church, will give a social and entertainment at the G. A. H. hall, on Thursday, the 24th. Dinner will be served to the public at 12, and supper in the evening.

CORA MAY ROSENBERG, who disappeared a few days ago, yesterday wrote her sister from Tillonville, where she is visiting. Her letter saying she had eloped with a Steubenville drummer was only a joke.

THE sale of seats opens at C. A. House's music store this morning for Maude Granger's engagement at the Opera House Thursday evening in her new and thrilling play, "Gabrielle." The prospects are that the sale will be large.

LAST evening a delivery wagon belonging to William Ehni, the Bridgeport butcher, in turning out of the street car track on the curve at the west approach to the suspension bridge, wrenched a wheel off and meat was scattered far and wide.

## ABOUT PEOPLE.

Strangers in the City and Wheeling Folks Abroad.

Mr. Harry R. Faris has gone to Charleston.

L. S. Brock, of Morgantown, is at the McLeure House.

General I. H. Duval was down from Wellsburg yesterday.

Philip Doddridge, of Charleston, is at the Windsor Hotel.

Mrs. Henry Serix, of North Wheeling, is visiting friends at St. Clairsville.

Hon. D. W. Shaw, of Barbours county, was in town and took in the circus yesterday.

Rev. D. L. Ash will preach his farewell sermon as pastor of Wesley chapel next Sunday.

Miss Minnie Shields, of Wellsburg, is visiting her friend, Miss Alice White, at Belton, Va.

E. L. Neale and M. D. Martindale, of Ben Lomond, registered yesterday at the Stamm House.

Mr. G. B. Jones and family have returned from a two weeks' visit to friends at Ella, Marshall county.

W. T. Harrison, of Clarksburg, Quincy Cresap, of Cresap, and John Wolf, of Grayville, registered yesterday at the Behler.

E. N. Riggs, George M. Fowler, J. C. Weyer and F. Ricker, of Powhatan, came up yesterday evening to attend the Masonic meeting. They stopped at the Behler.

## "An Irishman's Love."

The patrons of the Grand will be given a rare treat the last three nights of this week in the appearance of the great Comedy Melodrama, "An Irishman's Love." In addition to a long line of refined specialties which will be introduced during the progress of the drama, the famous Clipper Quartette, one of the finest vocal organizations in the country, will appear. Seats will be placed on sale at Weir's on Thursday morning.

## The Irish Corporal.

A good audience assembled at the Grand last night to see the beautiful comedy drama called "The Irish Corporal." All those present last night were more than pleased. This is one of the best that has ever appeared here in this play. The company caught on from the start, and good business is assured at the last performance of the company this evening. Seats on sale at Weir's.

## Herrmann's Performance.

Herrmann had, as usual, a full house at the Opera House last night. The performance was as deft and pleasing as is his wont.

THE world is always interested in the cure of consumption; yet its prevention is of far more importance. Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup is guaranteed to cure coughs and colds. Sold by all dealers on a guarantee of satisfaction. Beware of imitations.

Plans of the improvements of Benwood Junction are on exhibition in George Darr's window. It will pay you to see them and you will double your money if you buy a lot this week. HOLS & HANLEY, Agents. 1314 Market Street.

## ABOUT HORSE MEAT.

Mr. Frew's Observations in the Abattoirs of Paris.

The following is an extract from a private letter received from Mr. John Frew from Paris yesterday;

"I have often heard of horse meat being a regular diet here, but I did not take much stock in it, so yesterday we went out to the abattoirs (butcher shops) and saw the mode of killing cattle and sheep, and then went to the horse abattoir, where we saw the carcasses of twenty horses which had been killed a few hours before we got there. The only difference between the carcass of a horse and that of a steer is that the whole of the front leg is cut off the horse and the hind leg is left on entire, showing the whole hind leg with hoot and shoe still on. There were twenty more head in the barn ready for slaughter to-day, among them some of the toughest looking old horses you would find anywhere. Some of them had legs as big as a barrel. I have quit eating beef for the time being, as there is no telling where one might strike a horse steak."

## ROBINSON'S CIRCUS.

The Tents Fairly Filled, and a Good Show Given.

It has been a long time since there was a circus performance given in Wheeling which gave as universal satisfaction as that of John Robinson's show yesterday. About the only criticism heard was of the parade, and this was only that the wagons were a little the worse for wear, which is natural, so near the close of the season. The menagerie is a fine collection of animals, and the ring performance will compare with that of any show, while the riding, as is usually the case with the Robinson show, surpasses anything seen here for many seasons. The King Solomon pageant is brilliant and interesting, and the ballet very pleasing. The tent was fairly well filled yesterday afternoon, in spite of the intense heat, and last night the attendance was even better. It was said by John Lowlow, the equestrian director, yesterday, that the show had not had as hot a day this season.

## In Squire Arkie's Court.

Edward Brown, of Elm Grove, was fined \$5 and costs by Squire Arkie last night for assault and battery on Ernest Bierviller, and \$1 and costs for profane language to Fred Hartlieb. He was also fined \$5 and costs for assault and battery on Thomas Burke, but the fine was remitted on his paying the costs. Burke was accused of assault and battery on Edward Brown, but was dismissed. Twenty charges of selling liquor to minors were made against Fred Hartlieb. He gave bond in \$100 in each case for his appearance on the 29th. A traveling man was sent to jail in default of bail for his appearance at 10 a. m. today on a charge of indecent assault on Mrs. Emma Haymond, of Eleventh street, but later gave bond and was dismissed.

## Engineer Seely in Town.

Electrician John A. Seely arrived in the city yesterday morning. Mr. Seely will push the work on the electric light plant immediately. The electric light poles are now en route for Wheeling, 1,400 of them, the largest shipment that has passed over railroads for many years. They are of Canada cedar, and were imported by the Michigan firm from whom they were bought. The boilers and engines are being constructed by the successful bidders. Mr. Seely thinks he will have the electric light plant erected and in full operation in three months.

## Dr. Frank Hupp All Right.

Fortunately the rumor referred to in yesterday's INTELLIGENCER, that Dr. F. J. Le Moyne Hupp was suffering seriously from blood poisoning, turns out, as was suspected, a great exaggeration. About a month ago Dr. Hupp did cut his thumb, and symptoms of blood poisoning set in, but an operation was performed which resulted in removing all danger, and he is now recovering rapidly, without losing even his thumb. He is now at Brentwood, L. I., and his father is with him.

## An Electric Car on Fire.

Last night about 10 o'clock a closed electric car caught fire on Tenth street, just at the transfer. There were two big blinding flashes, and then a small blinding sprang up, and quite a hole was burned in the top of the car before the flame could be stamped out. Nobody seemed able to explain the cause of the fire.

## Squire Davis's Court.

Squire Davis yesterday fined Patsy Brown \$5 and costs for a breach of the peace, Mary Edwards being the complainant. William Poindexter, charged with forgery, was dismissed. Last evening he had a lively old time hearing the evidence about a fight between women on McCulloch street around the hill.

## Arrested This Morning.

It required Officers Daum, Donley, Watson and Moran to arrest a Robinson show hostler, Charles Welch, for disorderly conduct at 2 o'clock this morning at the train. They brought him, though he took refuge in a car full of horses.

## German Remedy Company in Trouble.

The German-American Remedy Company has had its accessible property attached. It is thought the trade marks "Red Cross Oil" and "Red Lion Specific" may be sold for enough to clear the stockholders.

## IN SELF DEFENSE.

Louis Bouche Killed by His Brother-in-Law in St. Louis.

St. Louis, Sept. 21.—Louis Bouche, a resident of St. Louis, was killed in an out of way locality in East St. Louis yesterday by his brother-in-law, August P. Bedort. Bouche and his father wanted to eject Bedort from the house in which he was living. Before Bedort's marriage it was owned by Louis Bouche, Sr., but at that time was deeded to Bedort. Recently the elder Mr. Bouche became displeased with Bedort and wanted him to relinquish possession of the house. This Bedort refused to do and yesterday Bouche and his son went to the house of Bedort and endeavored to eject him from the premises. A quarrel ensued during which Bouche received a knife thrust from the hand of Bedort which proved fatal. The killing was done in self defense.

## It is Confirmed.

New York, Sept. 21.—A dispatch to the Associated Press, under date of Santiago, September 21, from United States Minister Patrick Egan, confirms the published reports of the suicidal President Balmaceda.

## A Missing Tug.

WINNIPEG, MAN., Sept. 21.—It is feared the steam tug Lady Ellen has been lost of Long Point in Lake Winnipeg. She left Grand Rapids with a sail boat in

tow on the morning of the 7th inst., bound for the Little Saskatchewan river, and should have reached there on the morning of the 8th, but up to the afternoon of the 16th inst. there were no tidings of her. There were six men on board and fears are entertained for their safety.

## PARKERSBURG NOTES.

A Suicide, A Terrible Explosion, and a Brakeman Killed.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer. PARKERSBURG, W. VA., Sept. 21.—Jno. Forbes, an old citizen of Belpre, died this morning at 7 o'clock. The circumstances surrounding his death are peculiar and led many to believe he committed suicide. Friday night he took a large dose of carbolic acid. From then on to the time of his death he was very sick, though it is not known that his death was caused directly by the carbolic acid. He was a carpenter, and almost every large house and barn in the village was his handiwork. During his life time he amassed a fortune estimated at \$12,000. He lived unpleasantly with his wife and daughter-in-law.

A premature explosion of dynamite which was used for blasting, injured one man fatally and another very seriously at Burning Springs Saturday morning just before the Hilton started for Parkersburg. Some men were at work blasting rock near the new Government lock above the springs to be used in the lock. In some way the blasting dynamite exploded while the men were working around it. The explosion was a terrible one. A man named Felix Morgan, who was working there, had both eyes blown out and was otherwise injured. His wounds are considered fatal. A man named Hyckman was injured seriously by the explosion, but his wounds are not necessarily fatal. These men were doing the blasting. They had placed a load and applied the electricity. It failed to go off. They then started to drill out the dynamite. Morgan was holding the drill and Hyckman was doing the striking when the explosion occurred. James Sharp, a Baltimore & Ohio brakeman, was killed at Eaton's station yesterday morning and his remains were brought to this city this morning. Sharp fell off a westbound train, but was not missed until the train reached Pennsboro, four miles away.

## BRIEGROOM DIDN'T COME.

Now the Intended Bride is Congratulating Herself on Her Escape.

CORTLAND, Sept. 21.—Among the most attractive young ladies of Truxton, is Miss Minnie Johnston, who is a pronounced blonde, nineteen years of age. Miss Johnston lives between the village proper and the classic town of Homer. At all the Sunday school picnics and evening teas, which are the limit of the dissipation of the country people, Miss Johnston was always the one most admired. The rural swains vied with each other in winning her smiles, while those of her sex envied her for the attentions she received. But it remained for a home admirer to secure favor in her eyes. This young man was Edward Hamon, whose father is one of the leading church men in the village. He was employed at one of the shops in this village, and received a fair salary. Their engagement was soon announced and last Friday evening was the time set for the wedding. Her mother prepared the traditional wedding feast: the village dressmaker, assisted by some of the bride's friends, prepared the bridal outfit, and the clergyman was told that his presence would be necessary to perform the ceremony.

A wedding is a rarity in that part of the country and no invitations were necessary to get together the people. They all with one accord felt that it would be a failure without their presence, so they were all there. Six o'clock was the hour appointed, but when it arrived Hamon had not put in an appearance. Seven o'clock came and still no Hamon. At 10 o'clock the minister quietly told those present that something must have happened to the groom, and bid them good night, as he and they returned to their homes. All this time the bride was nervously pacing the floor in her room and refused to be comforted. Yesterday afternoon it came to light that the deceitful Hamon had fled, not only from his intended bride, but from several others. A few months ago he had papers served on him for breach of promise, the young lady being a resident of Albany county. The case, however, was settled. A young lady in Marathon is also desirous to see him, as he has deceived her. But one who is particularly anxious to interview him is a Brewery Hill farmer, with whose daughter he ran away, and after living with her in Binghamton for six months sent her home. This occurred while he was courting Miss Johnston, who, since finding out Hamon's true character, is congratulating herself on her narrow escape, and says Friday is her lucky day.

Hamon will find a warm reception should he return to Truxton or Homer.

## LYNCHED BY A MOB.

The Father of the Hanged Man Commends the Mob's Action.

DARLINGTON, Wis., Sept. 21.—At noon to-day an infuriated mob took from the county jail Anton Sieboldt, who brutally murdered James Meighan, a neighbor, last Wednesday, and hanged him to a tree in the court house yard. Sieboldt was a desperate character and his parents manifested little concern when informed of the lynching. The elder Sieboldt is reported as having said the action of the mob was probably just and right. The city is in a wild state of excitement and the principal streets are crowded with people from the surrounding country. The murder was committed with a wagon bolt in a field near Willow Springs, where Meighan resided. Sieboldt was a farm hand on Meighan's farm.

## Fears of More Trouble.

NASHVILLE, TENN., Sept. 21.—There is every indication of renewed trouble at Brieville within a few days. The armistice expires on the 24th instant and miners are reported to be restless because of the inaction of the Legislature.

E. B. Wade, superintendent of prisons, said to-day that he anticipated a renewal of the troubles upon the expiration of the armistice. Gov. Buchanan is firm in his determination to put down any further insurrection, and the trouble, if it comes, can be of but brief duration.

## Excursions to St. Louis via the Pennsylvania Lines.

On September 19 and 20 excursion tickets will be sold to St. Louis via the Pennsylvania lines from Wheeling, W. Va., at round trip rate of \$15.75, good returning until September 28, 1891, and the rate will be correspondingly low from other stations. The Sovereign Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F., meets in St. Louis September 21st to 26th. DAW

## PUBLIC Sale of Lots at Buckhannon,

Upshur County, W. Va., October 15 and 16. Distribution to shareholders, October 14. Special railroad rates. Come and see the best location in the State. xxyaw

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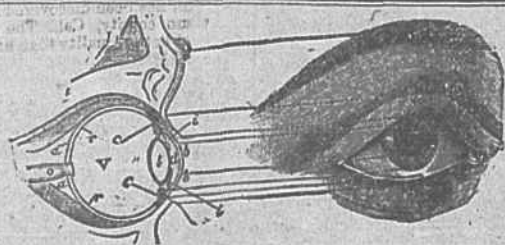
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